

Message Text

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ACTION SY-10

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R 171006Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4746

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AFSP, MT

SUBJ: SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS-VALLETTA

ROME FOR RSO

REF: ROME 2987

1. ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO COVER SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR EMBASSIES? PLEASE ADVISE.

2. AS PRIORITY ITEM, EMBASSY WISHES INSTALL BULLET-PROOF GLASS PANELS WITH DOOR IN CENTER, WITHIN ENTRANCE HALL OF CHANCERY, EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRONIC LOCK (ITEM H REFTEL). EMBASSY'S INTENT IS FOR PANELS TO BE PROTECTIVE DEVICE, AND TO ALLOW RECEPTIONIST TO HAVE FULL VIEW OF VISITORS BEFORE SHE RELEASES ENTRY DOOR IN PANEL.

3. GLASSED AREA WOULD BE 9 FEET 4 INCHES HIGH BY 9 FEET 10 INCHES WIDE. FRAMES WOULD BE SCREWED TO LINSTONE WALLS. WHICH ARE NOT COMPLETELY STRAIGHT. TOP PART WOULD GO INTO FALSE ACOUSTICAL CEILING, BUT NOT BE ATTACHED TO ACTUAL CEILING (ELECTRIC, TELEPHONE AND AIR CONDITIONING CONDUITS RUN ABOVE FALSE CEILING).

4. EMBASSY HAS FOUND THAT BULLET PROOF GLASS AVAILABLE IN MALTA ON SPECIAL ORDER ONLY. INFORMED BY RSO, TOME, THAT HE ADVISED BY A MANUFACTURER IN ROME THAT DUE TO TYPE OF GLASS, HOLES, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LOCKS, FRAMES, ETC. ON SUCH GLASS MUST BE DONE IN FACTORY AT

TIME GLASS MANUFACTURED. COST OF 16-19 MM BULLET PROOF GLASS IN ITALY IS APPROXIMATELY \$92 PER SQUARE METER. COST OF 11-12.5 MM BULLET RESISTANT SHATTERPROOF GLASS APPROXIMATELY \$59 PER SQUARE METER. MANUFACTURE AND AIR FREIGHT SHIPPING COST UNKNOWN AT THIS POINT (MANUFACTURER RECOMMENDS AIR FREIGHT FOR SAFE SHIPMENT).

5. HOWEVER, ISRAELI EMBASSY ADVISES THAT BULLET PROOF GLASS DECREASES IN EFFECTIVENESS AS IT INCREASES IN SIZE, AND THAT AN AREA OF THIS DIMENSION WOULD NO LONGER BE BULLET PROOF.

6. SINCE EMBASSY HAS NO EXPERTISE ON THIS SUBJECT, WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, ETC. YOU MAY HAVE. (A) DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO SIZE OF DOOR AND ADJACENT GLASS PANELS, TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION, GLASS, FRAME, METHOD OF INSTALLATION TO WALLS, ALTERNATE SOURCE OF SUPPLY, ELECTRONIC LOCK? (B) DO YOU HAVE ANY BASIC PLANS FOR SUCH DOORS? (C) IF ISRAELI INFORMATION CORRECT, DO YOU HAVE ANY ALTERNATE SUGGESTIONS? (FYI, EMBASSY HAD CONSIDERED TV SURVEILLANCE OUTSIDE EMBASSY MAIN DOOR, BUT BELIEVE AREA NOT LARGE ENOUGH FOR THIS SYSTEM TO BE USED EFFECTIVELY.

7. OF EQUAL PRIORITY IS THE INTERIOR EMERGENCY ALARM SYSTEM (ITEM I, REFTEL). IS THERE ANY WAY THIS CAN BE INSTALLED AS PART OF THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM? TELEPHONE CONDUIT IS TOO SMALL FOR ADDITIONAL WIRING THEREIN; IF SEPARATE WIRING REQUIRED, IT WOULD RUN DOWN CORRIDOR ABOVE FALSE CEILING. CAN YOU RECOMMEND ANY SYSTEMS, OR ALTERNATE SUGGESTIONS?
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